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"A Smarter Stimulus"

By Congressman Allen Boyd (D-FL)

America is facing an economic crisis greater than any since the Great Depression. We are seeing the ef

Last year, Congress tried to stimulate the economy in a number of ways and in a more piecemeal fashio

One could argue that not all of these efforts were successful, and our economic problems have become

Before the House floor vote last week, and as someone who has been advocating for balanced budgets

However, I understand the seriousness of our economic situation, and I resolved that I could support a s

Alice M. Rivlin, an economist and the first director of the Congressional Budget Office, laid out this criteri

I stress two sets of actions because I do not believe it will be sufficient to pay lip service to the long run c

Economists, such as Rivlin, have said that massive spending may be necessary provided that it is targete

On the spending side, a stimulus package should focus on initiatives that the federal government is supp

Also, economists all agree that we cannot sustain the level of spending proposed in the stimulus package.

David Walker, the former Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office,

Spend it quickly

On the tax side, I want to see a stimulus package that gets money into the hands of the people who are

The stimulus package also should include incentives for businesses to grow and a strategic way forward

Additionally, the stimulus package must lay out a framework including a commitment to strong budget

For all of these reasons, I was not able to support the stimulus package that came before the House last

While the stimulus package may not end up looking like I want it to look, I am confident in our new president

Under President Obama's leadership, I am encouraged that this economic downturn will result in a renewed

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